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Chief of Station, Karlsruhe

15 April 1950

Chief, Foreign Branch X

Operational

Brigadeführer u. Oberregierungsrat
Dr. Walter Friedrich SCHILLERBACH

1. A check of the British allegation (BARI 2012) that UTILITY had offered his services to HERRMANN in setting up post defeat resistance turned up SCHILLERBACH's account of the incident. An extract is being pouched separately of that part of the Final Report on the Case of Walter Friedrich SCHILLERBACH (II-11635) which relates the story of UTILITY's offer. Despite SCHILLERBACH's unsatisfactory mental condition while under interrogation, his account of UTILITY's offer is both lucid and credible. Certainly we would seem justified, on the basis of SCHILLERBACH's statements, at least in assuming that the two were well acquainted. Since UTILITY has never to our knowledge mentioned this connection, and had even once in conversation with Donald C. Woods conveyed the impression that he did not know SCHILLERBACH, we were mildly alarmed.

2. In considering how we might best verify SCHILLERBACH's story and toying with the idea of at some point confronting UTILITY with SCHILLERBACH, we read with some interest certain references to SCHILLERBACH, esp. in operational correspondence. Possibly the most startling vista opened by the assumption of an acquaintanceship between UTILITY and SCHILLERBACH is that presented by the involvement of an unidentified SCHILLERBACH in HERRMANN's activities. Is it possible that the central adviser of HERRMANN, Dr. SCHILLERBACH, is Dr. Walter Friedrich? We would like, if possible, to have a preliminary report from other than OGC sources on the routine aspects of the HERRMANN affair. For example, is the SCHILLERBACH concerned identified in the articles of incorporation or related papers, or in the rent agreement with Price and Company, and, in the form of a neighborhood check, who is the occupant of the 3 1/2 room apartment at the disposal of SCHILLERBACH?

3. Could we, in addition, be brought up to date on the current overt situation and activities of Dr. Walter SCHILLERBACH? A reference in WBA-5163 to the possible advisability of querying a Brigadeführer SCHILLERBACH on the background of a person of possible operational interest indicates him to be more or less available.